



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

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1899-08-20

## Letter from Gifford Pinchot to John Muir, 1899 Aug 20.

Gifford Pinchot

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# The Planters Hotel

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AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PLANS.

HENRY WEAVER.

St. Louis, U.S.A.

Aug 20, 1899.

Dear Mr. Union,

I could not write you <sup>Monday</sup> before leaving San Francisco because I did not see Reinstein until the second time I called, about 4 P.M., and after that I had to get ready for the six o'clock train. Reinstein had a sick headache, or neuralgia, or some other trouble that induced him to tie his head up in a towel, but Newell & I had a good talk with him, short as it was. We said little about the Redwood Canyon, but as I am to prepare a scheme for the spending of \$150,000 on forest work in California for Reinstein's unknown friend, I care less about that. I shall have a better chance later on. Even then it may not be necessary, for at lunch with Marsden Manson last Monday I told him about your plan.

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he said at once he knew the man who would buy the land & give it to the State Univ., and that he would see him that afternoon about it. One way or another, it seems likely the thing will get done.

My meeting with the Redwood men was very satisfactory. After a good deal of more or less general talk they voted to raise \$1000. to enable me to start work this fall, and \$300. was subscribed before the meeting broke up.

They also offered free transportation and free grub for all my men. When they offered that I came down to \$1000. in my estimate, and there seems to be no doubt whatever that I shall get it. The Sec. of their association was appointed to collect the subscription, and I rather think I shall hear from him very soon. On that side I am much encouraged. Whatever their motive, it is worth a good deal to have lumbermen

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go down into their pockets to help along forest work, and it ought to mean also a good big increase from Congress next fall.

That trip with you and the Darton, short as it was, is one of the brightest spots in my year. I cannot help regretting most deeply that we could not have gone on to the American River grove, but if I can get out again this fall, as I intend to do, perhaps you will send a rest from your writing then. To make a trip with you on foot, with my pack on my back, has been one of my keenest hopes since the summer of the National Commission.

The trip across by Tahoe was most interesting and instructive, but I did hate to go away & leave it - all that splendid broken country where a man could go and work & get the wrinkles in his mind smoothed out. I

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have got to get into the woods, and clear in, some time this fall, or my winter's work will not amount to anything. And the prospects for useful work are too good to be wasted for lack of forest-made snap.

With many thanks for all your kindness,  
Very sincerely yours,  
Gifford Pinchot.

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